

Planning a Funeral at Assumption

GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS FOR USE WITH *Through Death to Life*

The Franciscan Church of the Assumption
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MAY GOD GIVE YOU PEACE.

There are three “stations” to the funeral rite: the wake, the liturgy, and the commendation at the grave. The funeral rite can be a source of comfort and healing for those left behind. Participating in the planning process of a loved one’s funeral can make it a more personal, meaningful experience for those attending and a loving tribute to the deceased. The following instructions are meant to assist you in that preparation. In addition, Friar Rick, Friar Brennan-Joseph, or Friar Nader are available to assist you in whatever way they can at this difficult time for your family and friends. Peace.

Reading I: The first reading may be chosen from p. 26-30 of *Through Death to Life* (or from p. 31-34 during the Easter Season) or another suitable scripture reading. Non-biblical texts may not replace scriptural readings at Mass. The family should choose a family member or friend to proclaim the reading.

Responsorial Psalm: The responsorial psalm is sung. The family may request a particular psalm from p. 35-44 of *Through Death to Life* or another appropriate psalm and the organist will choose a musical setting for that psalm. The family may also request a particular musical setting if they wish.

Reading II: A second reading is optional. If the family chooses to have one, it may be chosen from p. 45-55 of *Through Death to Life* or another suitable scripture reading. Again, non-biblical texts may not replace scriptural readings at Mass. If two readings are being done, the first should be from the Old Testament and the second from the New Testament. The family should choose a family member or friend to proclaim the reading.

Gospel: Although the presiding priest proclaims the Gospel, the family may select the one that will be read. The Gospel may be chosen from p. 59-78 of *Through Death to Life* or another suitable reading from the Gospel of Matthew, Mark, Luke or John.

Homily Preparation: To assist Father as he prepares the homily for the funeral liturgy please email the following as soon as possible to: friarnader@assumptionsyr.org.

Please list highlights/key events of the deceased’s life. What were some of the passions of his/her life and why? What were some of his/her Christian virtues? What would be important for Father to know about your loved one as he prepares the homily?

General Intercessions: The family should choose one of 6 sets of intercessions from p. 79-85 of *Through Death to Life* (omitting those individual intercessions noted for a bishop, priest, deacon or religious). Again, the family should choose someone to read the intercessions.

Presentation of the Gifts: The family may choose two people to carry the offertory gifts to the altar. The family may also choose not to have an offertory procession.

Remarks of Remembrance: The Catholic liturgy does NOT include any eulogies. This is best done at the funeral home, the grave or at the reception after the funeral. However, if the family desires, they may have one person come forward after Communion to offer some remarks of remembrance lasting no longer than 3-4 minutes. The remarks at the liturgy should be focused on the deceased's Christian virtues and not simply memories.

Signing the Book of Remembrance: Assumption Parish has a custom of listing the names of all the deceased in a Book of Remembrance. The family is asked to appoint one member who will sign the name of the deceased in Assumption's book. This will be done shortly after Communion.

Special Music Requested: If there is a particular hymn that the deceased or family would like to suggest they should let us know as soon as possible. If suitable these will be integrated into the liturgy as best possible. It is not possible to include "secular" or "pop" music.

Other Notes:

1. Suggested Offering: Church - \$200
Organist - \$150
Cantor - \$100

Please note: These are suggested offerings. We are happy to serve you and your family regardless of your financial situation. If you cannot pay the suggested amount, please give what you can. If you can afford more, know that your gift will be put to good use. In either case your generosity is greatly appreciated.

2. The church provides a half-page program which indicates the readings and the page numbers of the song selections for the liturgy. The family is responsible for preparing anything beyond that.
3. Please do not hesitate to call Friar Rick, Friar Brennan-Joseph, or Friar Nader at the number listed above if there is anything further that we can assist you with.

KNOW THAT OUR SYMPATHY AND PRAYERS ARE WITH YOU.

BIBLE READINGS and GENERAL INTERCESSIONS FOR A FUNERAL

Readings from the Old Testament: (You may choose one of these for the first reading.) p. 26-30

- 1) 2 Maccabees 12:43-46 (C-1)
- 2) Job 19:1, 23-27a (C-2)
- 3) Wisdom 3:1-9 *or* 3:1-6, 9 (C-3)
- 4) Wisdom 4:7-15 (C-4)
- 5) Isaiah 25:6a, 7-9 (C-5)
- 6) Lamentations 3:17-26 (C-6)
- 7) Daniel 12:1-3 (C-7)

Readings from the New Testament during the Season of Easter:

(Note: During the Easter season one of the following four readings is used as a first reading instead of a passage from the Old Testament.) p. 31-34

- 1) Acts 10:34-43 *or* 10:34-36, 42-43 (C-8)
- 2) Revelation 14:13 (C-9)
- 3) Revelation 20:11—21:1 (C-10)
- 4) Revelation 21:1-5a, 6b-7 (C-11)

Responsorial Psalm: (You may choose one of these for the Responsorial Psalm.) p. 35-44

- 1) Psalm 23:1-3, 4, 5, 6 (D-1)
- 2) Psalm 25:6 and 7b, 17-18, 20-21 (D-2)
- 3) Psalm 27:1, 4, 7, and 8b and 9a, 13-14 (D-3)
- 4) Psalm 42:2, 3, 5cdef; 43:3, 4, 5 (D-4)
- 5) Psalm 63:2, 3-4, 5-6, 8-9 (D-5)
- 6) Psalm 103:8 and 10, 13-14, 15-16, 17-18 (D-6)
- 7) Psalm 116:5, 6, 10-11, 15-6c (D-7)
- 8) Psalm 122:1-2, 4-5, 6-7, 8-9 (D-8)
- 9) Psalm 130:1-2, 3-4, 5-6ab, 6c-7, 8 (D-9)
- 10) Psalm 143: 1-2, 5-6, 7ab and 8ab, 10 (D-10)

Readings from the New Testament: (You may choose one of these for the second reading.) p. 45-55

- 1) Romans 5:5-11 (E-1)
- 2) Romans 5:17-21 (E-2)
- 3) Romans 6:3-9 *or* 6:3-4, 8-9 (E-3)
- 4) Romans 8:14-23 (E-4)
- 5) Romans 8:31b-35, 37-39 (E-5)
- 6) Romans 14:7-9, 10c-12 (E-6)
- 7) 1 Corinthians 15:20-24a, 25-28 *or* 15:20-23 (E-7)
- 8) 1 Corinthians 15:51-57 (E-8)
- 9) 2 Corinthians 4:14—5:1 (E-9)
- 10) 2 Corinthians 5:1, 6-10 (E-10)
- 11) Philippians 3:20-21 (E-11)
- 12) 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18 (E-12)
- 13) 2 Timothy 2:8-13 (E-13)

- 14) 1 John 3:1-2 (E-14)
15) 1 John 3:14-16 (E-15)

Gospel: (You may choose one of these for the Gospel reading.) p. 59-78

- 1) Matthew 5:1-12a (G-1)
2) Matthew 11:25-30 (G-2)
3) Matthew 25:1-13 (G-3)
4) Matthew 25:31-46 (G-4)
5) Mark 15:33-39; 16:1-6 *or* 15:33-39 (G-5)
6) Luke 7:11-17 (G-6)
7) Luke 12:35-40 (G-7)
8) Luke 23:33, 39-43 (G-8)
9) Luke 23:44-46, 50, 52-53; 24:1-6a (G-9)
or 23:44-46, 50, 52-53
10) Luke 24:13-35 *or* 24:13-16, 28-35 (G-10)
11) John 5:24-29 (G-11)
12) John 6:37-40 (G-12)
13) John 6:51-59 (G-13)
14) John 11:17-27 *or* 11:21-27 (G-14)
15) John 11:32-45 (G-15)
16) John 12:23-28 *or* 12:23-26 (G-16)
17) John 14:1-6 (G-17)
18) John 17:24-26 (G-18)
19) John 19:17-18, 25-39 (G-19)

General Intercessions: (You may choose one of these for the General Intercessions) p. 79-85

- 1) H-1
2) H-2
3) H-3
4) H-4
5) H-5
6) H-6

Hymns: (Are there any hymns that were especially meaningful to the deceased or ones that we should avoid.)

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